

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Method for reprocessing used PET bottles, the method comprising:

- a) shredding the bottles to yield PET plastic flakes,
- b) sorting the PET plastic flakes according to at least one criterion into at least two partial quantities, and
- c) performing an industrial reprocessing treatment of each of the at least two partial quantities, the industrial reprocessing treatment including at least one decontamination treatment for each of the at least two partial quantities, wherein the PET plastic flakes are sorted in such a way that a first partial quantity consists of at least approximately 95% PET plastic flakes of thick-walled parts of the beverage container, and a second partial quantity consists of at least approximately 95% PET plastic flakes of thin-walled parts of the beverage container.

2. (Previously presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein sorting the PET plastic flakes according to at least one criterion includes sorting the PET plastic flakes according to one of a difference in size, a difference in thickness, a difference in weight, a difference in density, a difference in crystallinity, and a combination of one or more thereof.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim [[3]] 1, wherein performing the industrial reprocessing treatment further includes reshredding the first partial quantity.

5. (Previously presented) Method according to Claim 4, further comprising combining again the first partial quantity and the second partial quantity after reshredding the first partial quantity, and then jointly decontaminating the combined quantities.

6. (Previously presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein sorting the PET plastic flakes according to at least one criterion includes using a pneumatic table.

7. (Previously presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein sorting the PET plastic flakes according to at least one criterion includes a density separation as a function of crystallinity in a liquid medium.

8 - 11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the first partial quantity consists of at least approximately 98% PET plastic flakes of thick-walled parts of the beverage container.

13. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the second partial quantity consists of at least approximately 98% PET plastic flakes of thin-walled parts of the beverage container.